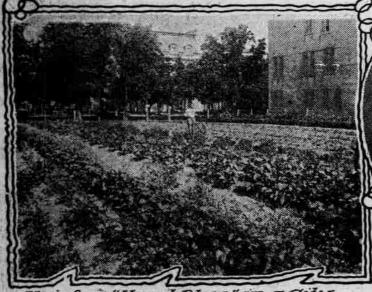
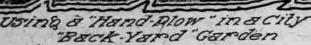
Work on Their Garden

BACK TO THE SOIL IN VARIOUS CITIES







Prof. L.C. Corbett In Charge of Horticultaral and Pomological Investigations. Dept. of Agriculture

Making "City Farmers" All Over the Land - What the Department of Agriculture. Is Doing To Popularize the Home-Garden Idea - Concrete Examples of What Has Been Done In Different Parts of the Country.

Copyright, 1917, by The International Syndicate.

traveling abroad, as one is carried through the towns, villages fields of France and England, cities to follow the example of Detroit, the tourist notes with interest the Mr. R. F. Powell serving as the effilittle gardens which have converted cient and enthusiastic first superinstretches of unused railroad lands tendent of the work from its beginning into narrow garden strips of potatoes, in 1894 until recent years. Buffalo and other vegetables and also has done fine systematic city garflowers: and at evening it is quite a ual sight to see a man with his wife den work, and Cleveland has accomand children all out on the railroad plished wonders in thrift and beauty plot tilling his bit of garden. The American traveler is apt to cant lots into vegetable and flower comment favorably upon this example of foreign thrift and to compare it "The work of Mrs. Henry Parsons, fertilizers are beyond the individual

waste of a similar oppor tunity in his own country, little recking that the idea of granting the und lands of a country to its garden-Griscom Parsons, for long secretary done in other cities is to arrange to actisens came from the United and adviser of the International have the street sweepings dumped on more than another in the Government New York University. In Washington is the best available. service about the use of the waste a few men and women have been orplaces of the city and the country for ganized for a number of years and plied seed; in many cases tools. Our municipal and school gardens that we have been carrying on the work expenditure amounts to approximateman is Professor L. C. Corbett, in of utilizing the vacant city lots for ly a fifth of the return to the culti-charge of Horticultural and Pomo-logical Investigations of the United aging the subject of school gardens as estimation, and a form of philan-States Department of Agriculture. It a means of educating the children in a thropy of the highest character, for it sor Corbett who was au- branch of practical and profitable ef- carries no stigma of charity and in-

make out of a small back yard, or of A report of the Agricultural Com-In a recent talk with Dr. Corbett a vacant city lot if properly managed. mittee of Detroit, made in 1895, tells upon the subject of the conversion of Men have made fortunes out of small of the plan originated by Mayor Pinvacant city lots and other unused lands truck farms, and any one with slight gree the preceding year, and baptized into gardens for the people he men-endeavor can grow a season's vege-by the people with the popular title tables for his family and have some of "Pingree's Potato Patches." His use its waste land for the over to give away or to sell. But fame went beyond the confines of this enefit of its needy citizens.

such work must be started properly country, for the idea spread to Eu"It was as far back as 1894 that and carried on with system and care. rope, where it was regarded in some yor Pingree's 'Potato Patches' were "A man came to me a few days ago measure as a solution of the charity held up to the attention of the world and said he desired to convert some problem. The Detroit plan had for its at large as a practical means of alleviating the need at a time of great and wished to start the work at once. families in poor circumstances by perfinancial depression," said Dr. Corbett. Upon asking him a few questions I

Others Have Tried And Succeeded. | He knew nothing of their cost, but "Philadelphia was one of the first before he left this office he had gained some of the first principles as to establishing a work of this sort. Fundamentals Must Be Mastered.

"There are certain fundamental things which must be done before starting the people to work to conlands must be plowed and harrowed by converting its back yards and va- by the organization directing them. "The work of Mrs. Henry Parsons, fertilizers are beyond the individual started the children's farms in purse. What we have done in Washthe city of New York, in 1902, is wide- ington and what other successful peoly known, as is that of her son, Henry ple's gardening organizations have Griscom Parsons, for long secretary done in other cities is to arrange to League of Children's School Farms, or near the vacant lot gardens. This and director of the school gardens of makes very satisfactory fertilizer, and

thor of the first Department bulletin fort which may prove a source of spires independence and self-helpfulon school gardens, which was the first especial value to them at a time of government move toward the real national uncertainty like the present.

Government of vacant-lot and school "Few people realize what they can every aspect in which it is viewed." "Few people realize what they can every aspect in which it is viewed."

Many cities took up the plan after found that he had no ideas whatever tivate the several thousand idle acres tion. that, and it has gone on quietly year after year since then, doing an admirable work for the people of the mirable work for th

Washington,D.C. That first year the sum of \$3,600 made sixty bushels and over. This vas found necessary to carry out the yield of potatoes alone nearly doubled scheme, for since the beginning the in value the proceeds from all vegefundamental work, as outlined by Pro-fessor Corbett, has had to be given year. A low estimate made of the garden forfeited for neglect or breach fundamental work, as outlined by Pro- tables raised during the preceding the organizations undertaking the season's crop of vegetables raised on work. Close to a thousand families the yacant city lots was given as \$30,were assisted in that year in Detroit, 000, which was realized by the culand crops to the value of \$14,000 were tivators, while the committee's expenditure was \$5,000. harvested. Next year \$5,000 was ap-

little trespassing was reported.

Making a city Garden on a Big Scale

in one of the Most Fashionable Parts of

propriated by the Common Council. Larger tracts of land were offered, and these were plowed and harrowed to which the plan was at first subby contract per acre. They were then staked off, by foremen hired for the and all have continued their adoption purpose, into parcels of half-acre and with increasing results. Among other quarter-acre lots. A Successful Season. Seed potatoes, beans and other seeds

were furnished the people in sufficient quantities to plant about twothirds of each allottment, and the latand during that time but two superinthe direction of a foreman. During the summer months the cultivated mode of helping their fellow citizens. lands were looked after by two mounted policemen, one on the east and one on the west side of the city. Very most every variety of vegetable was cultivated that summer, the principal crops being potatoes, beans and, turnips, and it was found that the cultivators took about as good care of their crops as the average market gardeners. When fall came and the four dollars in the hands of the cultime to award a promised prize, it could not be given because there were

Philadelphia's Splendid Association. found to be 250 lots of equal perfec-

BIRTIES

"Pingree's Potato Patches" having passed through the phase of ridicule jected, were taken up by other cities, cities which adopted the Detroit plan were Boston, Buffalo, Omaha and Minneapolis.

The City of Philadelphia has followed a continuously extending plan vacant lot gardening since 1897. tendents have had the work in charge, his yearly reports Superintendent of their city lots and gardens both enthusiastic believers in this The work in Philadelphia was begun under the supervision of Mr. R. F. Powell, when a hundred families were each provided with a lot about a quarter of an acre in size. From these litabout \$60 per garden, and the committee had the satisfaction of knowing from our midst." that each dollar invested had yielded

The moral and educational effect late years when the cost of living has as well as to educative values. The of the work of that first year led the doubled the value of the crops. About report of this study has just been ts-

Busy in the School Garden each in food products a season.

The Philadelphia association re- stood up and said: quires that all applicants for gardens instructions of the superintendent and Philadelphia association notes the preponderance of old men and women and of children in the ranks of the gardeners. Five of the cultivators one year were over seventy years of age, and one of the most carefully kept gardens was that of a man eighty-two years old, who won a silver cup for his efforts.

One old grandmother, just out of hospital, begged for a garden. At first she was too weak to do all the work herself, but in time she became able not only to take entire charge of her plot, but also to make quite a sum of money from her sale of the vegetables. In chronicling events for one season of contract. Fifteen gardens yielded in cash, or value, \$110 each; twentyeight yielded from \$70 to \$90 during the season with the usual average of \$60 per garden prevailing. Only a small proportion of the produce was sold, being mainly consumed by the When, however, a market was made for the extra supply good prices were paid for the fresh vegetables. Less than one per cent. of the

produce was stolen. kept one object steadily in view, that respect has gone abroad; for other being to give each gardener a practical education in truck gardening so inquired of Cleveland concerning its as to fit him thoroughly for similar

"The return of \$10 to the workers for each dollar expended for their there are other benefits not to be computed in dollars and cents equal to if not exceeding the pecuniary profit. lums are among the just fruits of our tle farms the produce returns were This means of helping the needy to valued at slightly over \$6,000, or help themselves would, I believe, if carried still farther, abolish poverty

Paris Followed The Lead.

The Philadelphia Vacant Lots Cultivation Association is still doing an the city. Special attention has been important civic work, intensified these given to the possible economic results

sociation, organized in 1897, and in successful vacant lot gardening efforts active and helpful operation to this that Paris inaugurated a similar day, with an increasing number of movement in 1899. Great railroads contributors each year among the land set the scheme in operation along the owners and among others who provide lines of various of their systems, and funds for the expenses incidental to 130 villages, towns and cities took it carrying on the good work; and there up. So important were the results is a constantly increasing list of applicants for the land. The gardens of working men's gardens was held continue to yield an average of \$60 in Paris, attended by 700 delegates. At that congress one Frenchwoman

"Not from the vegetables alone sign a contract agreeing to obey the which the garden yielded all summer, or the good times the children and I the rules of the association. The had in the open air, but in glasses of beer and absinthe, which my band has not taken have we had untold benefit."

On the conclusion of her speech a man said: "Quite right, mother. No one can tell the evil we men don't commit while we are busy in our little gardens."

Newark, New Jersey, has made a success of its back vard and vacant lot gardens under the auspices of the Newark Yard and Lot Improvement Committee. Last year approximately one thousand lots were assigned to people : all stations of life, showing how widely acceptable and adaptable such work is, for the call of the garden is heard by every class; and once heard is never forgotten.

The leading crop report of last season's work in Newark was from a man who spent 226 hours, his spare time only in cultivating the 1-17 of an acre adjoining his home. He grew \$60 worth of vegetables of eighteen varieties and won the committee's prize of \$50 for his bumper crop,

Cleveland's Successful Work The Home Gardening Association of Cleveland, Ohio, has been a popular movement in the city on the lake The Philadelphia association has for many years, and its fame in this

cities in every part of the Union have work in the future. In closing one of sands of its citizens to make the most successful methods of inducing thou-Cleveland has been prominent in its

school garden work, believing that "to allow a child to grow up without benefit is a satisfactory result, but planting a seed or rearing a plant is a crime against society, and our armies of tramps and hordes of boodeducational system that slights this most important matter."

The school authorities of Richmond Indiana, have made a careful study of the possibilities of home gardening directed by the public schools in



A Brief Account of a Few of the Many Heroic Men of Science Who Have Gone To Their Death Through Their Desire To Aid Mankind.

Copyright, 1917, by The International Syndicate. HERE have been throughout although experiments on animals by science in general, and certainly medical science and the sciences related the human race. that service:
"I have a s to medicine, have furnished fully as tile of medical heroisms because that some diseases, do those heroic deeds kind of thing is not expected of doctors and nurses and hospital asscience. That word science (the meaning of which is simply "know-people who do not find things asso-

history many splendid and in- doctors are never made for any other rightly be moved by such a diary The predominant characteristic of our diagnosed his own case, bravely set thoughtfulness made him popular teresting stories of martyrdom. purpose than the good of humankind. But the narration of such It is unjust to call the scientists cold-sms among men of science has blooded; for the very simple reason een and is comparatively rare. Yet that the consistent aim of all science

the truth were known, than any other science, of medical science anyway, hase of human endeavor. Perhaps are comparatively unknown, is that we do not hear more of medical they are oftentimes achieved, oftenmartyrdoms because in science heroic times endured, in scenes and circumdeeds are considered to be all in the stances repellant to the average mind. day's work. Possibly we hear so litpeople something frigid, hard, emo-

the drum beat, the clarion note by which men march gloriously to death, engender the mighty and soul-stirring

made up since we got here. Today I live. worked on the ground with Austrian prisoners, digging holes for waste. It is terrible to see young men dying like My first thoughts this morning were of my wife and little son."

Dr. Howard T. Ricketta Nor was the brass band the multitude, the riderless led horse for Doc-If you will believe all you about. Such matters do not make tor Howard T. Ricketts, who gave his

contracted that disease by means of against yellow jack and malaria. The niceties and the refinements of life, he had been an absolute stranger to the In 1911 he repaired to Montana, to poet, whose chief excuse for existence freely entered into circumstances most lies in his immortalizing magnificent loathsome and repulsive. Of chardeeds, can get no thrill, no inspiration acter unassuming, a teacher most inspiring to his students, untiringly the mental strain, the extraordinary the tick bearing animals among which zealous; one of America's foremost fatigue along with the constant exscientific geniuses, he was already posure to one of the most agonizing the only fatality of that nature in the a long time his life was despaired of engender the mighty and soul-stirring line. But who ever can extract even so much as a sonnet out of a death from an experimental mosquito bite.

Dr. J. F. Donnelly.

Scientific geniuses, he was already strength of the most agoing in the only fatality of that nature in the bitter root region. We are told of him that "his quiet unassuming nature death was certain which Doctor Craig was fully aware and conscious. From this sufferer he contracted the meningitis. And on the most agoing in the only fatality of that nature in the bitter root region. We are told of him that "his quiet unassuming nature death was certain by his experiment. Next the most agoing time his life was despaired of the only fatality of that nature in the bitter root region. We are told of him that "his quiet unassuming nature and unselfish character endeared him to his colleagues and all who tients for study, saw a mosquito set-And yet what heart should not succumbed to the dreadful tabardillo. the onset of his own symptoms he knew him; his tact, consideration and entry as this, by my friend Doctor civilization today is the fierce and J. F. Donnelly, who had volunteered conscienceless struggle for power, of but five months for the probable ciency, firmness, resourcefulness and to fight typhus among the Serbian conquest, position. Who so blind end; and to the last moment of consolders, and died of that disease in that he does not observe this? What a contrast then lies in this noble life an for the trial husband and wife has the highest approbation of his su-"I have a small room with two other described in this noble death—in this library in humanity's medicine, have furnished fully as any altruists, very probably more, if heroisms and the martyrdoms of medicine, have furnished fully as any altruists, very probably more, if heroisms and the martyrdoms of medicine, have furnished fully as any altruists, very probably more, if heroisms and the martyrdoms of medicine, have furnished fully as any altruists, very probably more, if heroisms and the martyrdoms of medicine, have furnished fully as any altruists, very probably more, if heroisms and the high and in this noble death—in this library in humanity's which was freely exposed to the grave.

"I have a small room with two others in this noble death—in this library in humanity's which was freely exposed to the grave."

"I have a small room with two others are described in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in this library in the high and in this noble death—in the high and in this noble death many rats; and I feel some vermin on est of perils with no other purpose service, "neither ashamed nor afraid me. (The louse conveys from the sick than to scopelems for to die;" and upon this came the end. 1898, Yellow Jack had been epidemic, to the well the germ of typhus fever.) the benefit of our race. Here, indeed, The bed is hard and has not been was a man that died that others might

Dr. Albert B. Craig.

Nor, I warrant, has any one of my

Jesse W. Lazear

Dr. Thomas B. McClintic.

Mc Clinta

indeed practically endemic (that is, And where in the annals of fame constant), in Havana. And despite all shall you come upon the name of the then known methods of fighting Doctor Thomas B. McClintic, who died that infection there were about fifteen in his early manhood from the Rocky hundred cases, and 231 deaths among readers heard of Doctor Albert B. Mountain Spotted Fever, which he American officers and men alone in ology, choosing for his theme the new craig, who summoned to the bedside contracted while investigating that 1900. Dr. George M. Sternberg, the religion, that of the twentieth century: of a sufferer from fulminant cerebro- disease in the Bitter Root Valley of then Surgeon General of the United This religion rather than supplying spinal meningitis, a most virulent disease, found a patient from whom all early in his medical career entered then on duty in Cuba, Walter Reed. relatives, all friends were absent. This the United States Public Health Serv- James Carroll, Jesse W. Lazear and new way to serve their fellows; dismodern good Samaritan realized the ice, doing duty in Mexico, in San Aristides Agramonte, a board to test ease prevention would be its watchread, scientists are constantly tortur- pretty or attractive newspaper head- life for humanity and science while pathetic and grave condition of the Francisco at the time of the earth- the theory of mosquito transmission. Word; the skilled inglesser creatures than the human; lines. For such work few medals are investigating that human life must be geon would be am

put in jeopardy these men were unwilling to assume the responsibility of asking others to risk death; and 'hey agreed to make the first experiments upon themselves. Before the mosquitoes were ready for the tests Reed was ordered to Washington on official duty and was prevented from taking part in the experiments; and quite rightly—the proop having meanwhile been established-he did not afterward subject himself to them, Agramonte was an immune, had had vellow fever.

Carroll was first bitten and suffered tients for study, saw a mosquito set-tling on the back of his hand. Like the ancient Roman who thrust his hand in the devouring flame, Lazear calmly let the insect remain there until it had satisfied its blood-hunger and had in turn inserted the lethal polson. Lethal? Yes; for five days later this hero of the ages came down with yellow fever and died of it.

Hundreds more of such medical neroisms, of medical martyrdom could be related. But space is limited When Harvard's president Emeritus was made an Honorary Doctor of Medicine he shortly afterward addressed the Harvard Summer School of The-